

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01138 181054Z

17

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 181025Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2099

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 1138

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MASS KE US SO

SUBJ: RESPONSE TO ANTICIPATED KENYA REQUEST FOR US ARMS

REF: NAIROBI 6028

1. SOMALIS WILL NOT RPT NOT LIKE TO SEE US ARMS GOING TO KENYA. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT RPT NOT FEEL SOMALI REACTION TO LIMITED PURCHASES MENTIONED REFTEL WOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY STRONG--NOR ARE OUR INTERESTS IN SOMALIA SUFFICIENTLY GREAT--TO MAKE THIS A SIGNIFICATN ARGUMENT AGAINST FULFILLING KENYAN REQUEST.

2. SOMALIS WILL BE MORE CONCERNED BY TOTAL INCREASE IN KENYAN MILITARY PROCUREMENT FROM VARIETY OF WESTERN SOURCES. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, THEIR PRIMARY FOCUS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ON ETHIOPIA--AT LEAST AS LONG AS SITUATION THERE REMAINS SO FLUID--AND THAT THEY WILL NOT RPT NOT TAKE PRE-EMPTIVE MILITARY ACTION AGAINST KENYA. OCCURS TO US MIGHT BE WELL TO URGE KENYANS TO TALKE TO SOMALIS TO GET FIRST-HAND READING ON SOMALI INTENTIONS--WE SUSPECT THEY MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT REASSURED.

3. IDEA OF SUGGESTING KENYAN APPEAL FOR MUTUAL RESTRAINT IN
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SECRET

PAGE 02 MOGADI 01138 181054Z

EAST AFRICA (PARA. 4, REFTEL) SEEMS GOOD TO US, ALTHOUGH WE ARE

DOUBTFUL ABOUT ANY VERY MEANINGFUL SOMALI RESPONSE. WE HAVE SOME HESITANCY ABOUT SPECIFICS OUTLINED PARA. 5 REFTEL. WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE SOMALIS WOULD WELCOME PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT DECLARATION ON NON-USE OF FORCE--SIAD REPORTEDLY REJECTED EMPEROR'S OFFER OF NON-AGGRESSION PACT DURING THEIR TALK AT OAU SUMMIT (MOGADISCIO 0970). WITH MIG-21'S, PERHAPS T-54'S, AND VARIETY OF MISSILES IN SOMALI HANDS, AN AGREEMENT NOT TO ACQUIRE HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED OFFENSIVE WEAPONS NOT ALREADY IN REGION WOULD APPEAR TO SOMALIS TO SANCTIFY EXTENSIVE ARMS IMPORTS BY SOMALIA'S NEIGHBORS. ITS RESTRICTIVE PROVISIONS WOULD APPLY LARGELY TO SOMALIA. THUS, ITS SUGGESTION BY KENYATTA WOULD PROBABLY NOT RPT NOT BE HELPFUL TO KENYAN-SOMALI RELATIONS. KIRK

SECRET

NNN

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